## STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day; and

WHEREAS; Earth Day was founded in 1970 by former Wisconsin Governor and U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Clear Lake to raise awareness about air and water pollution; and

WHEREAS; on the inaugural Earth Day, Gaylord Nelson said that "our goal is not just an environment of clean air and water and scenic beauty," but "an environment of decency, quality, and mutual respect for all other human beings and all other living creatures"; and

WHEREAS; the first Earth Day saw nearly 20 million Americans participate in rallies, marches, and teach-ins for environmental education at colleges, universities, and high schools across the country; and

WHEREAS; Earth Day catalyzed a grassroots movement in the United States leading to the bipartisan passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, Endangered Species, and Marine Mammal Protection Acts and the founding of the Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS; all people, regardless of race, gender, income, or geography, have the right to a healthy, sustainable environment; and

WHEREAS; today, climate change poses a serious threat to Wisconsin's natural resources, public health, communities, tourism, and economy; and

WHEREAS; it is understood that effective solutions to address environmental challenges will require innovation, imagination, science, and untold collaboration that can lead to improved health, a transformed and more resilient economy, and a more sustainable future; and

WHEREAS; Earth Day ignited a spirit of stewardship that has driven progress for five decades, and serves as an annual reminder of the constant need for environmental activism, cooperation and stewardship commitments, and sustainability efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 22, 2020, as the

NNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

ughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 17<sup>th</sup> day

of April 2020.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

e Governor:

OUGLAS LA FOLL

Secretary of State